## THE SOUTHERN PRESS.

WASHINGTON CITY.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1850.

## The Freasury Report

Mr. VAN BUREN was defeated in 1840 by an overwhelming majority upon various charges, the principal of which was, that under his administration the expenditures had risen to thirty nine millions per annum. The Whigs degance and corruption. The Democrats admitted the amount to be much too great for ordinary or customary purposes, but defended that Florida War. &c . &c.

Now we have an expenditure of more than thirty-nine millions for last year; we have an flity three millions, and for next year of more than forty-eight millions. And we have squanduced to less than two, and will be even less

And we are threatened by the Secretary of tem of expenditure.

The effect of the popular demonstration in the wit in the paragraph we quote. 1840 against high taxes, was to reduce the ex- If we could permit ourselves to reply with the Washington Union, an organ of the Demo- STER or Mr. CLAY at the same age. eratic party, reviewing the report without a solitary objection to the extravagance.

As the sectional majority grows stronger, the is still rapidly increasing. power of the General Government grows Congress.

The property of the State of New York is hundred millions. But as the Southern States of assimilation would be easy. are richer than New York or the North, according to population, the total of our property may be about six thousand millions of dollars. The average income from this property improved and unimproved, is about three per cent., or one han dred and eighty millions of dollars. Our Federal taxes alone amount to more than one-fourth of all the income from our property. We have about four millions of men. Their labor at an average of one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, which is enough after making allowances for idleness and sickness, is about six hundred millions of dollars. So that our Federal taxes amount to about eight per cent. of all the earnings of labor in the country-or about six per cent, of all our income from labor and property.

Our Federal Government is now the most exis the most extravagant.

terest on debts due by private persons.

population under that government is about one | Court of the United States. lumbred and fifty millions, more than six times as great as ours-yet, the tax is only twice as

land or money, the only question is, whether it is slaves, as the Constitution expressly requires. no worse than some other that has been or will be are worse.

These are the infalible symtoms of public corruption, the precursor of national bankruptcy.

land. Yet it costs us more to build public ships which we do not complain, but they have also

in repair. lasted ten years, and were waged against the sailed? most powerful nation in christendom.

has been in the hands of each. Is there any hope that either will accomplish they were under the set of 1842.

a reform! The active elements of both consist of bodies of office-holders and office-seekers, whose appetite for spoils would bankrupt the placers of California.

principles, retrenchment in the expenditure as The money raised by the act proposed, would well as restriction of the powers of the Federal system.

The excesses, the abuses, the usurpation, perpetrated by the last session of Congress, ex- now paying to the Federal Government, is ex- signal manner, sentiments of the most distinceed all the political sins put together that drove the elder and the younger Adams and hostile section. This, perhaps, is one of the nounced such an expenditure for its extrava- Mr. VAN BURNN from power. Let us hope means why this policy is approved by this press, that the principles of the old Republican party, true to the interests of that section. that were driven from Washington in '98, and took refuge in Southern States, will again find as the result of unusual circumstances—the a similar fortress from which they will return to tection in this case would be given to the mere-conquer the Capitol.

The fire-enting Quaker of the Washington expenditure for the present year of more than Southern Press says that we seem to measure points, who are engaged in making constant our respect for him by the number of those who war upon the South. The Intelligencer well agree with him. If we were to do that, we knows that Massachusetts, the State which sends should have no respect at all for him. We bedered and are squandering the public lands, so lieve that nobody agrees with him, and we doubt that the revenue from them now, instead of be- if he ever agreed with anybody. If a cannibal or an anaconda were to swallow him, we doubt denied the Northern slaveholder any share in ing five millions a year as it ought to be, is re- if he would agree with the man or the varmint. the common territory; that she has twice through -Louisville Journal.

a wit that compensates for the vulgarity of his that she now has, and has had, for several years the Treasury with the permanence of this sys- taste—a taste which is more than original—it is on her statute book, laws forbidding, upon pain more than aboriginal. But we don't discover

penditure under the subsequent administration the apologetic egotism of the Washington Union, that journal saw nothing to condemn in these -that of the much abused Mr. Tyler-to we could say that more of the people have about twenty two millions. But now we have agreed, do agree, and will agree with us, than a Whig Secretary of the Treasury, and one of with any other writer or speaker. On the subthe orators on extravagance in 1840, making re- jects of currency tariff, and slavery, our opinions ports and estimates of expenditures now and and arguments have been more widely diffused to come, beyond fifty millions, without a soli- and generally adopted, than those of any other tary recommendation of economy; and we have man-much more so than those of Mr. Web-

On the great questions of the present time. the Compromise measures, our paper has risen We have progressed and are progressing. - more rapidly in circulation than any other, and pose the tax, either on merchants or pediars.

The Southern party, with which we agree, tronger; its Federative character disappears and which agrees with us, is already, we think. and the expenditure of fifty millions a year, the more numerous and more able than any other in allotment of half a continent to the rolling section, the distribution of countless millions of nance in the South. There is no instance in our growth, produce, or manufacture of this State. allotment of half a continent to the roling sec- the South, and is advancing rapidly to predomiacres of public lands to favored classes, the history of such sudden and rapid progress of a parpayment of ten millions of dollars to obtain ty. It has already terrified the leaders of both the the consent of a single State to sectional spo- others into an attempt at a coalition of both the but imported into it. Upon this the question has been made, whether a tax on articles imported liation, are all the work of a single session of others to save them from overthrow. But even into this State, or on the dealing in them, or a law that attempt will fail.

We agree with the editor of the Journal that about seven hundred millions of dollars, and she if a cannibal or an anaconda were to swallow us lay any imposts, or duties, on imports or exports, contains about one-eighth of all our population. we would not agree with him. But if either Estimating the residue at the same rate, and the were to swallow the editor of the Journal, he total of all our property is five thousand six probably would agree with them. The process eign nations, and among the several States, and

> The editor of the Washington Southern Pres oublishes an occasional dialogue between "Mr Norta" and "Mr. South," as he calls them. is evident that, in these dialogues, he himself both Mr. North and Mr. South. He is merely talking to himself, and he strikingly verifies the old saying that the man who talks to himself mas a simpleton for a listener .- Louisville Jour-

> The Journal does us too much honor. The author of the dialogue between North and South. is a standard classic in American literature, and an eminent and irreproachable statesman in American polities.

The Intelligencer, a few days since, with nore than its usual show of temper, denies the statement made in the speech of the Hon. WM. pensive of any government in the world. It is B. Shepard, with ref rence to the course of the far more so than the British, which next to ours Vaion and itself. We are not now about to enter into a course of argument to maintain Mr. In Great Britain the usual annual expenditure | SHEFARD, abundantly able as he is to take care for the support of Government, is about twenty- of himself, but intend merely to show that he. two millions of pound sterling, or one hundred if favorable to such a course of legislation, is and ten millions of dollars. We leave out the fully sustained by the judicial decisions of his jewelry, for his own use; or if he sell in a peculiar interest on her public debt, because that is not own State. We present below the opinion of for the support of government, but is the mere | Chief Justice Ruffin, of the Supreme Court of to tax, is deemed undentable; because it is a nepayment of a debt owing by the aggregate of North Carolina. Since that opinion was procitizens to their creditors, and is no more a tax mulgated, in the year 1831, the law then in quesproperly speaking, than the payment of the in- tion has existed, and been universally acquiesced right of importation is acquired from the United in. If the opinion of this learned jurist needs The property of Great Britain is estimated at additional support, we would refer the Intellitwenty-five thousand millions of dollars, so that gencer particularly to the opinion of Chief Jus with little more than four times the property, tice TANEY, in the license cases in 5 Howard. Great Britain imposes only little more than and to the many authorities cited, and the distwice our tax. The territory of Great Britain is cussions generally, in the cases of Smith vs more than twice as great as that of the United more than twice as great as that of the United Turner, and Norris vs. the city of Boston, dethe other goods of the State, by either being withdrawn from the market, as subjects of com-

> In fact, most, we believe all, of the States have similar laws.

Is it not remarkable that in the face of all Such is the comparison between a young Re- these authorities and this legislation, the editorpublican Confederacy, not yet three score years of the Intelligencer should pronounce such acts and ten of age, and a monarchy of a thousand as a nullification of the Constitution as a whole? years, a d the most powerful and gorgeous in They who have never, as far as we know, condemned the acts of the legislatures of Massa The idea of economy and even the pretension | chusetts, Pennsylvania, and various other North to economy, are now obsolete in Congress. ern States, which forbid their citizens, upon pain When an appropriation is proposed either of of indictment, to assist in delivering up fugitive two points; that the State could not impose a du-

It seems that Northern States may nullify proposed. If the grant of fifty millions acres of express provisions of the Constitution without land is demanded, it is supported by the argu- reproof from this quarter, but that if Southern ment that the land will all be given away any States should pass laws held to be constitutional how, and that therefore, this might as well be by the courts both of the United States and of braced one on their introduction into the mass of would prove that the friends of order and the given away now. If some millions of dollars the States, but which laws may nevertheless inare asked for a particular class or interest, it is terfere with the business of the Northern States. vindicated on the ground that we are wasting and tend to protect the South against the abo- to tax retail dealers, that there was the same right so many millions in so many other ways, that lition movements-these laws are to be deof the interests of the Northern section, calling to the article, or to the disposition of it; or, on itself a " National paper."

We have a navy, and have the finest supply of The people of the North have not only exclu timber in the world. The market value of tim- ded the slave property of the South from their other members of the Court, rejected as alto her here, is about one-fifth of the price in Eng- States where they have entire jurisdiction, of than England, and twice as much to keep them in our judgment against all right and justice, ab solutely prohibited it from going into the com-Our army is the most costly military estab- mon terr tory of all the States. And now, when lishment for its number that ever existed since | Southern legislatures propose not absolutely to the world was made. The expenditure of the prohibit, but merely to subject to a discriminalate Mexican war exceeds immensely, that of ting tax the productions of Northern States they cease to be imports, "articles imported, any similar expedition ever heard of. The ex- that have combined to carry out such a system " penses of that war, and the acquisition of terri- of exclusion, as will not only affect the pecunitory will amount to about two hundred and ary value of Southern property, but destroy the sale, as other property may be taxed. fifty millions of dollars,-to more than the equality of the States, and reduce part of them expenses of the Revolutionary and late war to a condition of political vassalage, is it not priated to private use, or offered for sale in a pecuwith Great Britain put together, wars which strange we say, that they should be thus as-

Equally remarkable is it that the Intelligencer To this result have we been brought by the should condemn the policy of these laws because amongst those which are subject to taxation; and dom and their country; the last must be the For during almost the whole of the period these the Southern States are now generally paying expenditures have been so rapidly swelling, one duties of 30 per cent. on articles of foreign im- in the Constitution; and if the State tax it by that branch or other of Congress, or the Government port, and the Intelligencer has complained that name, that cannot bring it again, and by force pendence, if we must. many of these duties were not still higher as thereof within the Constitution, and make it be I have the honor such "an article imported," as is not subject to your obedient servant.

Now when it is proposed as in the bill of Mr. Enwis, which we published a few days since, to Let the Southern party assume as one of its per shifts its ground, and condemns the policy. all go at once into the treasury of North Carolina, to be expended for her own benefit. But the greatly larger sum which her citizens are pended mainly for the benefit of the North, the guished consideration.

Besides the policy proposed may be less acceptible to the Intelligencer, because the prochanics and laborers of North Carolina, and not to the Abolitionists at Lowell and other most of her productions to the South, not only has through her legislature and Congressmen The editor of the Journal sometimes displays | slave representation ought to be abolished, and | ton county, to Sauk Rapids, where they are to of fine and imprisonment, her citizens from obeying the constitutional injunctions in relaknow that such things are.

Our purpose, however, now is not to argue these points, but to present that portion of the opinion of Chief Justice Ruffin, which relates to the point in controversy.

It was given in the case of Wynne rs Wright, Dev. & Bat. 1 vol. page 19. But in this court another question has I een argued, which is of more importance, as it involves an inquiry into the power of the legislature to imperson who shall peddle in any county, goods no wooden clock, or the machinery or materials thereof, which shall not be of the manufacture of this State, or jewelry, which machinery or clock states that the articles retailed by the plaintiff. were of jewelry, not manufactured in this State, requiring the purchase of a license to deal in them, be not repugnant to the provisions of the Consti-tution of the United States, that " no State shall except, what shall be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws," and that "Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with for-

ith the Indian tribes."

Upon this question, the court is not under the necessity of presenting any original views of their own. It seems to be fully decided by the opinons of the Supreme Court of the United States of M' Collock v. The State of Maryland, 4 Wheat 316, and Brown v. The State of Maryland, 12 Wheat, 419. In the latter case, it was held, that an act, requiring the importer of goods from a for-eign nation, to pay a tax for a license to sell them by the bale or package, was void. But it was admitted by Chief Justice Marshall, through whom the voice of the majority was given, that the words of the Constitution must necessarily be un-derstood in a limited sense; and that although it was not easy to say precisely how far the restrict tion encroached on the general power of a State to tax persons or property within her jurisdic tion, yet, that the restriction, upon a fair constru-tion ceased, whenever the goods imported, be came mixed with, or incorporated into, the general mass of property of the State. A tax on the sale in bulk by the importer, denies the free privi lege of making such incorporation; but nce made, the restriction ceases, and the un shackled power of taxation commences. As ex amples of such incorporation, as will make the goods, and thereby uses the privilege nurchases by the import duty; or if he break up his pack-ages, and travel with the goods, as a pediar; or, if he keep a particular article, as a piece of plate of manner, on which a tax is imposed as hy auc In each of these cases, the right of a State as the principle, on which the prohibitions of the Constitution, applies. That principle is, that the tates exclusively, and consists not barely in the right to bring the goods into the country, but also to mix them, when here, with the mass of properbut also ty ty a sale at wholesale. But when thus mixed. ne right of the importer does not pass to his astion on a first sale adhere to the goods upon a resale. Nay, although the importer continue to be merce, and diverted to his private use, or by be ng offered for sale in small parcels, or in a pecu

liar manner, as by auction, by kawking, or oth-These inferences are made from the language of the Chief Justice, and, if there could be any doubt of their accordance with his meaning, that doubt is removed by the remarks of Mr. Justice Thompson, who dissented. He states it as an admissio of the majority of the Court, that a tax on retai dealers in imported merchandize is not in violaion of the Constitution. The point of difference between them, was solely as to the period, when attain this result, are in favor of the Fugitive whether they can make good their pledges when the right of the State to tax, accrued, or as to the slave bill, honestly and cordially enforced-who called upon. Now, I flatter myself that having condition and state in which the goods must be, are opposed to its repeal or essential modificato become the subjects of taxation. All agreed in tion, and who are adverse to any farther agitathe act of importation; and that it could do o, where the goods became mixed up with the other goods of the country by the packages being broken up, and sales by retail, in any mode at empted. the prohibition went beyond a tax on the intro- tained by the non-slaveholding States, would the general property of the State, by a sale by the Union are important to control the fanatical importer by wholesale. Judge Thompson, on the contrary, thought that it followed from the right to tax those by wholesale; as he saw no interme nounced as nots of nullification, by the organ the prohibition was, on the one hand, only against every true patriot in all sections of our widelytaxing the act of importation, and did not attach extended republic, and which alone seems ade the other hand, that it was against the right to tax which the country now labors, or of which it is the article at all, or any and all future dispositions of it; which last hypothesis, he, as well as the

gether untenable only the that of importation. imported : disposition, or after the packages are broken up, and the goods appropriated to private use, or offered for sale at retail, or in any peculiar manner. the meaning of the Constitution then become the subjects of State taxation, in all its modifications, either on the value or on the

It would seem to follow, that a tax may constitutionally be imposed on such goods, thus appro- me, the Union might be preserved and perpetuiar manner, although they be taxed by the name of goods imported, or not of the production of the own discretion in selecting the objects of taxation, must be the sanguine hope of all lovers of free- and spirit of the Constitution. the name given in the statute is only the mode of sole refuge of Southern independence, only taxed is not "an article imported," as understood

taxation.

## Janny Lind

Sang again last night, to a house still more impose ten per cent. or one-third only, in crowded than before, and still more excited with amount of the foreign tariff, suddenly this pa- enthusiasm. And her powers even rose in proportion. Her "Home, sweet Home," was a decided improvement on the previous night. And her foreign songs, so completely turned the head of our Secretary for Foreign affairs, Mr. WEBSTER, that he expressed to her in the most

> THE CHOLERA AGAIN .- The steamer Amazo nia, at St. Louis on the 6th, with 300 German emigrants, from New Orleans, lost thirty passengers by cholera during the passage up. The steamer Columbus, also with emigrants, lost far better, incalculable profits, and places the twelve by cholera during the trip up. The steamer Duchess, at Louisville on the 9th, from New Orleans, had five deaths by cholera among world. Will any gentleman offer a bid? the deck passengers.

FROM MINNESOTA .- We copy the following items from the St. Paul Pioneer :

Last Friday a company of the United States dragoons galloped through our town. They conducted the prisoners, arrested in the late was her legislature unanimously resolved that the of the Winnebagoes, for selling whiskey in Benbe tried

We hear of some depredations littely com mitted by the Chippewa Indians up north. Being reduced to starvation by the delay of their drain them. annuities, they armed themselves and drove off tion to fugitives. And yet the conductors of and butchered three yoke of oxen belonging to Government.

It is generally believed that Governor Dewey, things, and do not even allow their readers to of Wisconsin, will commute the punishment of body more? the two Chippewa Indians sentenced to be hung for murder at Willow river.

The Prairie du Chien Patriot says "We are informed by letter from Prairie I: Crosse, that the Winnebago chief Dandy, and most of his band, embarked at that place of board a steamer, a few days since, to join their brethren of the same tribe on the Crow the remainder it is expected will soon follow

## Important Movement.

The Governor of Virginia has sent the following special message to the legislature. It arf the growth or manufacture of this State, or any rived at a late hour, and we are without time for

> It was refered to the committee on Federal relations

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, ) RICHMOND, Dec. 16, 1850. To the General Assembly of the State of Virginia

Gentlemen: I herewith transmit to you a pre able and resolutions passed by the Conventi of Indiana, assembled to revise the constitution of that State, and the report and resolutions of a like convention of the State of Maryland. The spirit in which they are conceived must be regarded as a favorable omen, and they excite the hope that the feelings of bitterness and dissension which pervade the confederacy, may yet pass harmlessly away. There are, indeed, por ntous manifestations of deep discontent at the South: and these have been heightened and flamed by the course recently pursued in Ver-The legislature of that State has virtually, by statute, annulled the law of Congress for the recapture of fugitive slaves, which alone induced the Southern States acquiesce in the Late Compromise measures. Vermont has thus affect d upon the whole South at once an in gry and an insult. To neither, can we with or or self-respect submit.

There must be a distinct immediate and final ettlement of the question of slavery between slaveholding and the non-slaveholding States the present agitation is continued, the Union will inevitably be destroyed. If this element of iscord be removed, no cause of fend remains to pardize the permanence of our confederation honorable means should be left untried to store and perpetuate tranquility. For this we should exhaust every measure of conciliation and forbearance. We can scarcely pay too much mported articles subjects of State taxation, the for the restoration of that fraternal harmony, gemman of choler mong de 'tire human race ? ration, and which alone can for any length of ime preserve the Union. In discharge of the duty which the South owes to herself and her citizens, she must maintain, at all hazards and at any cost, her honor, her equality, her independence, and her essential rights. In proof of her devotion to the Union, she must be prepared to secrifice all else to her sense of patriotism.

The late action of Vermont demands an inistracted the country. The recent action of ndiana scems to indicate that the time is propitious for its amicable decision. For the resto ration of complete and effectual harmony, I ful owners. signee, nor does the former exemption from taxa willing to abide by the Constitution, may cooperate.

I would recommend the adoption by the legislature, of resolutions inviting all the States of right of squatting. the Union to unite in sending delegates to represent the whole people in a General Convention, which ought to assemble at an early period -not later than May-at Baltimore, or some of a Patrick. other convenient central point, for the purp se of bringing to an end all sectional controversies relative to slavery. To secure that end, the principles which should govern the action of the convention ought to be announced in the reso- ing! going! ations by which it is called. All should be invited to unite in this movement who are in favor of the perpetuation of the Union, and who, to tion of the slavery question, either in Congress or in the States. With this the South will be responsibility. content-less than this can only eventuate in the dissolution of the Union. The action of The majority of the Court held, that such a convention, if successful and fully suspassions which are now urging on a speedy dissolution. It is a measure which addresses itself to no particular party, and refers to no political quate to redress or avert the terrible evils under

To render this measure effectual, and to relieve the deliberations of the convention from The result of the reasoning is this; that the the trammels by which it might otherwise be term "imports," in the Constitution, means not embarrassed. I would farther recommend that ' but the "articles such resolutions be accompanied with the sinbut that in the latter sense, the exceere and carnest appeal of the State of Virginia, emption from taxation continues only until the speaking through her legislature to her sister first wholesale disposition of them. After such States of the South, en reating them to postpone any extreme action in relation to present of such a convention could be known. The restrictive measures which the legislature may adopt, might be made dependent for their con tinuation upon the ultimate action of this con-

By the adoption of this course, it appears to unless a higher bid is offered. ated in fraternal harmony, or the South enabled to present a united and unbroken front to the For a State may certainly exercise her assaults of fanalical adversaries. The first reserved rights of the States, and to the letter the contrary notwithstanding.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, might as well bid so much old continental

JOHN B. FLOYD. money

Por the Southern Press. Grand National Union Auction

Scene, WASHINGTON-DISTANT VIEW OF THE WHITE HOUSE .- AUCTIONEER MOUNTED ON THE STUMP OF THE TREE OF LIBERTY-A LAST REMNANT OF THE REVOLUTION-SUR-BOUNDED BY A VAST CROWD OF AMERICANS. FOREIGNERS, AND TREE NEGROES.

Auctioneer, rapping his hammer .- Gentlemen, the office now up for the highest bidder, is one of the most valuable ever disposed of at public auction since the sale of the Roman Empire. It comprises the quintessence of the sovereignty of the people; its possession conveys a right to the disposal of inestimable honors, and what is fortunate possessor at the head of twenty-three millions of the most enlightened people in the

First Bidder .- A large slice of the public lands for improvements in Missouri; another slice on account of two per cent. paid; a great central rail-road from St. Louis to the Pacific. at the expence of the General Government; relinquishment of tolls on the Government lands: pre-emption rights to settlers, especially in California; ceding the public lands to the States where situated; and all the swamps in the universe to any body that will take the trouble to

Auctionee .- Why, really my good sir, this is bidding by retail. You must be joking. I have been offered twice as much at private sale. No-

Second Bidder .- A compromise surrendering all the remaining rights of the South to the Abolitionists-the rights of property-the right to a share in the public domain—the right of resistance-the right of secession, and the emanripation of all the negroes into the bargain, if necesseary. Great applause among the gentleien of color.

Auctioneer .- Silence gentlemen; nobody has right to speak here but the buyer and seller. Cuffee Douglas .- By gosh, I reckon I speak jis when I like, an' do what I like. Dat de higher

Auctioneer .- Turn out that fellow for inter-

The negroes draw their bowie knives and revolvers; the magistrates are sent for, but can't come; the Attorney General is consulted and hears what one side has to say; and the President being called on, can't see any harm in the matter, but threatens to send troops to Texas if the Auctioneer thinks it necessary. Order is

at length restored by suffering Cuffee to say and do what he pleases.] Auctioneer .- Well, gentlemen, now that all quiet, and the supremacy of the law vindicated by the firmness of the magistrates, the argunents of the Attorney General, the inflexible patriotism of the President, and the good sense of a law-abiding people, we will proceed with the sale if you please. Any more bids gentle-

Third Bidder .- A grant of all the public lands to the entire human race, especially Messrs, Tag. Rag. Bobtail and Company.

Irishman.-By St. Patrick, that's something like. I shall come in for a potato patch, in the

Here a great confusion of longues, Lish, French Italian, High Dutch, Low Dutch, and broken English, ending in a row about the division of

Cuffee .- Mister Hawskinneer, I deman' to know of the candlemake, if he mean to exclude de Auctioneer .- Certainly, certainly-all free and

Cuffee .- Den by gosh, I stick to um like deat to an ole nigger.

Auctioneer .- Any gentleman bid more ?- Go-Fourth Bidder .- A grant of all the public lands, and all that may be hereafter acquired, to Messrs.

stant settlement of the issue which has so long Tag, Rag, Bobtail and Company, with a full recognition of the right of every man to settle down wherever he pleases, and turn out the law would suggest a measure in which the patriots Figh Bidder - Ditto-with a stipulation that

of all sections, and all who reverence and are Messrs. Tag, Rag, Bobtail and Company shall never be turned out for debt, or crime of any sort, but hold it forever under the indefeasible

Irishman .- By J -- s, that's the boy for me I'll vote in every ward of the city for that jewel

Barney. I dare say we shall get a better offer. Auctioneer .- Any more bids, gentlemen? Go-

Sixth Bidler .- The gentlemen bid high, Mr. Auctioneer, but the question naturally arises been placed by a decree of Providence in a situation to redeem mine, no one will doubt my . A Bill to reduce and modify the rates of postage in

Auctioneer. -- Certainly -- certainly your Excellency-everybody knows your standing at the board of brokers. Anybody more! Going!

Sixth Bidder-A new tariff-protective duties-internal improvements, all over and everywhere. Stopping the Mississippi from overdiate be ween the two extreme alternatives, that organization, but asks the cordial support of flowing i's banks-bringing canals and rail-roads to every man's door-erecting innumerable harbors on the lakes-making all the rivers in the United States navigable to their sources-never quarrelling with anybody-never fighting with Economy-and seeing the laws faithfully executed, by shutting my eyes to their violation.

Irishman .- By the holy poker but that's the true way of seeing the laws executed, by hanging them by the neck. That's the boy for me; I settle down on that boy. I say Barney, won't lifficulties, until the result of the deliberations | we put it into the Connaught men beautifully ? Auctioneer .- Gentlemen, I forgot to apprise

you that the price of this inestimable article is limited. None of you have yet come up to it, and I am therefore compelled to close the sale, Seventh Bidder .- A rigid economy in the

public expenditures—a faithful adherence to the

Auctioneer .- (Laughing.) Why my honest and required to coin pieces of the value of three great points could not, of course, add much to co-operation of both the great national parties. burdensome to the consumers. The people of designation or description. Whenever the power when all brighter hopes are proved by this last of the State to tax arises, it is because the thing effort to be futile and vain. The motto of this have been buried somewhere about the time of must be, as it has been, Union, if we can-Inde- the Revolution, and dug up for this special occas'on. This sort of coin don't pass now. You

The candidate retires in great confusion.]

Auctioneer .- Silence, gentlemen, if you please.

Eighth Bidder .- A strict adherence to the higher law and the conscientious scruple, without regard to the Constitution or the oath to support it-dissolution of the Union-and a sacrifice of the peace, prosperity, and happiness of the people.

Immense applause among the philanthropists and Free-soilers.

Auctioneer .- Ah! that's something like a bid Nobody more! Going! going! positively last eall, gentlemen - Going ! - going !- GONE !-Name, sir ! Oh!-ah!-mum-I see.

Great murmurs among the unsuccessful bid. corruption. They are, however, silenced by a

THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION. IN SENATE. WEDNESDAY, Dec. 18, 1850.

Mr. Soule and Mr. BRIGHT appeared in their A message was read from the House appound ng their concurrence in the resolution re-appoint-ng Richard Rush, of Philadelphia, and General

Towson, of Washington, Regents of the Smith sonian Institution. Mr. PEARCE presented the resolutions passed by the Maryland State Convention in favor of the

justment measures of the last session. Ordered The CHAIR laid before the Senate the annual

report from the Superintendent of the Coast Sur Mr. PEARCE moved the printing of 5,500 ex tra copies. Referred to Committee on Printing.

Mr. BORLAND reported in favor of printing the communication from the State Department on the slave trade

BRADBURY. Fifteen hundred copies. Agreed to. MISSOURI RAILROAD Mr. ATCHISON introduced a bill making a grant of lands for a railroad from St. Louis to the

western limits of Missouri. BOUNTY LANDS Mr. GWIN'S resolution directing an inquiry

into the expediency of granting bounty lands to certain volunteers serving the United States in Oregon and California, not heretofore provided or, was adopted.
Mr. FOOTE introduced a bill for the relief o

Charles D. Alfredson, late Charge ad interim to Sweden and Norway. Mr. CASS'S resolution coming up for consid-

eration, to wit:

Resolved, That the President berequested, if no incompatible with the public interest, to commu-nicate to the Senate, copies of any correspondence. f any has taken place, between the Department f State and the Austrian Charge d' Affaires, respecting the appointment or proceedings of the agent sent out to examine and report upon the ndition and prospects of the Hungarian people uring their recent struggle for independence Mr. CASS said that this morning he had re-ceived the pleasing information from the senator from Connecticut, (Mr. Smith.) that the minister appointed to Austria some months since, had not leparted, as yet, for that destination. It was to supposed that he had not remained of his own

will, and that what the public sentiment had long since demanded, and which the Senate had refused to approve, had been otherwise virtually fulfilled! The resolution was laid upon the table REMOVALS FROM OFFICE.

Mr. BRADBURY'S resolution in relation to removals from office during the administration of Gen. Taylor, and the pending amendment of Mr Underwood, were resumed.

A lengthened debate followed, chiefly upon the removals of Col. Weller, late Mexican Boundar ommissioner, and Gen. Lane, late Governor of

Oregon, in which delate Messrs. Whitcoms. Mangum, Cass, Gwyn, Ewing, and Bright par ticipated. Mr. BRIGHT having the floor, who the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, December 18, 1850. Mr. FITCH asked unanimous consent to take up the Senate bill providing for the appointmen of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, whose terms had expired. The motion prevailed, and

the resolution was passed. Hon. Richard Rush, and Col. J. G. Totten, are

appointed by the bill.

Mr. SIBLEY introduced a resolution Resolved, That the Committee on Public Land be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing, by law, for transforming the 16th and 36th sections of school lands in Oregon and Min Territories to the Legislative Assemblies thereof, and to allow of their being leased by said Legislative Assemblier, and that said committee

report by bill or otherwise. Mr. ALBERTSON presented the memorial of a meeting of citizens of the West at Evansville Indiana, and asked its reference to the Committee on Raitroads and Canals, and that it should be

rinted. Carried.
Mr. GILBERT introduced a bill to establish the office of Surveyor General for California. Re ferred to the Commutee on Public Lands. Mr. PHŒNIX introduced a bill establishing

collection district in the State of New York, and port of entry at White Hall. Referred to the mmittee on Commerce. Mr. THURSTON introduced a bill providing

for a Revenue Cutter for Oregon. Mr. CARTTER objected to its reception, and called for the regular order of day. Mr. POTTER moved to go into Committee of

the Whole on the state of the Union. Carried. Mr. BURT in the Chair The Committee proceeded to the consideration of the bill reducing the rates of postage.

The bill is as follows: Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Represen-

tatives of the United States of America in Congress erhood, and expressed his willingness to vote libassembled, That letters carried in the mail of the erally for those purposes, maintaining that the United States shall be charged with postage as follows : Upon each letter not weighing over one half

mailed, three cents; and for each additional half

paid, there shall be charged three cents. There on papers circulating within the county where shall be charged upon each unpaid letter weighing printed. not more than one-half ounce five cents, and for each additional half ounce, or fraction of half an showing that the effect of the measure relating to ounce, when so unpaid, the sum of five cents. Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, There shall be charged on each newspaper, of no greater size through the mails from the office of publication to ment making five cents the uniform rate for letters anybody-never uttering that unpopular word any place out of the State where published, the livered within the State where published, the sum | tion thereof of one-half cent ; and for each newspaper larger dimensions than above specified, shall be charged with an additional rate for each addition. Office Department was the only one economically nineteen hundred square inches or fraction administered. thereof. And all pamphlets, periodicals, maga- ored to excel his predecessor. In five years, per-zines, and every other description of printed mat- haps, rates might be reduced to three cents on letter, (except newspapers,) which shall be uncon- ters. nected with any manuscript or written matter, and copy sent of no greater weight than one ounce, or fraction of an ounce. Bound books not weighing over thirty-two ounces shall be deemed mailnder the foregoing provisions, anything in the fifteenth section of the act approved matter for the Pacific coast. March third, eighteen hundred and forty five, to country was entitled to mail facilities

alloy, which shall be a lawful tender for all debts. House upon all the points it presented.

to individuals, persons, and corporations.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, It shall be the At its close, the corporations. furnish to all deputy postmasters, and other per- upon the bill. sons applying and paying therefor, suitable stamps And then the House adjourned.

Loud laughter and hissing among the croud of the denomination of three cents to facilitate the prepayment of the postages provided for in this act. And to any person who shall desire to purchase of the Postmaster General, or of any deputy Auctioneer.—Silence, gentlemen, if you please. chase of the rosemaster general, of of any postmisster at any one time, an amount of stamps to the value of fifty dollars or upwards, such stamps shall be furnished at a discount of ten per cent. upon their par value. All deputy postmasters who shall receive at any one time stamps to the amount of fifty dollars, shall be allowed a de-

duction of ten per cent, upon the par value. Sec. 5. And be it further enacted. That there is hereby appropriated out of any money in the

treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars to sup-ply any deficiency that may arise in the Post Of-Mr. POTTER proposed an amendment which

was a substitute. It proposed for letters weighing not over half an ounce, three cents; and three cents for each additional half ownce or fraction thereof. Also for newspapers, pamphlets, periodicals, magnzines, books, and every description of printed matter (not connected with any manuders, and considerable talk about bribery and and for each additional ounce or fraction thereof, one cent. Bound books to be considered mailfew winks and a significant whisper of the successful candidate.]

[EXEUNT OMNES.]

able matter under the provisions of this set, Provided, that new spapers delivered in the State where
printed shall be charged with only one half of the
foregoing rates. The bill also provides, for the
coinage of three cent pieces. The 4th and 5th
sections of the bill, in amendment, are like those able matter under the provisions of this act, Proof the original, above. The 6th section provides for quadruple the above rates, upon letters going to and coming from ports of the United States in the Pacific, and treble rates on printed matter. After some conversation between the Chair,
Messrs. Brown of Indiana, and Senence,
Mr. POTTER proceeded to address the Committee. He said the Post Office system was not

established as means of obtaining revenue to sup-port the Government. When it paid its way it nswered the object of its establishment, if providing proper facilities. He was for a reduction of the rates of the present law, and explained the operation of low rates in England and in this country. Under the old rates the revenues would have been insufficient for the support of the in-creased expenditures of the Post Office establishcreased expenditures of the Post Office estations ment, but under those of 1845 the revenues exceeded in '49 and '50, the expenses by one half a million of dollars. A reduction of the present rates, he considered would have a like operation. The rapid settlement of the country, the improve-ment of roads, and the great intelligence of our people, gave assurance of such an increase of revenue, as would exceed expenses in five years. He opposed distinctions in rates with reference to distances. The main difficulty was in the mailing and delivery of letters, and not in the conveyance of the matter when mailed. He could see no reason why a letter carried a hundred miles should exceed in price those which are carried fifty. As to the proposed reduction upon newspapers, he was not as well satisfied. Seeing no reason for distinguishing in rates according to distance, but thought some encouragement should be given to country newspapers by reducing postage upon them. On account of the great cost of mail facili-ties to and in California, the rates of postage should be higher than usual, though the time would soon arrive for their reduction to the general standard. He opposed distinctions in rates upon paid and unpaid letters. The provisions in relation to stamps, would enable booksellers, and others, to purchase them in quantities for public

Mr. CARTTER proposed an amendment providing that no postage should be charged on newspapers mailed and delivered in the same ounty; also, to make five cents the rate of postage

and not three.

Mr. CARTTER regretted to differ with his colleague, but he considered that his project would bankrupt the Post Office Department. The ob-literating of distinctions in rates would build up nd concentrate literature in the eastern cities He concurred with his colleague in this, that the Post Office Department should be self-sustaining. f he was correctly informed, the bill introduced royides an appropriation of one million five hun-

red thousand dollars.
Mr. POTTER explained that that sum was in

the treasury. It was to be applied to the use of the Post Office Department. Mr. CARTTER resumed, contending that the P. ). Department, so far from having brought one half a million into the treasury, had been an ex-pense to the Government. The mail steamers, the mehinery of the Department proper, were charges pon the treasury.

He condemned the action of the President and

ostmaster General in recommending schemes of xtravagant expenditures, instead of those for nyment of the public debt. secretary states to Congress, that with all our nmense revenues, the expenditures would exsel it by from four to eight millions of dollars. He regarded the whole scheme as favoring the nonster printing establishments of the e stern ities. It would subject the country to a political and literary servility, to newspapers controlled by be self sustaining, and the rates of postage should be gradually reduced. If once a charge upon the reasury, the people in sparsely settled parts of try would be denied additional mail facilties. The post masters in the interior towns now held their offices at public solicitation. Under a system reducing their present nominal pay, they could throw up their commissions. Mr. CARTTER arther maintained, that the examples of the dense oppulated countries of the old world, cannot

pply in our own country.

Mr. ASHMUN proposed an amendment providing for a uniform system, charging two cents on letters not exceeding a half ounce in weight, and a like sum for an additional half or fraction thereof also providing for newspapers any distance in the United States one cent each, and for

pamphlets one half cent. And one half cent for each additional sheet or fraction thereof. Public documents &c. ins understood by the reporter,) to be sent at Government expenses.

Some conversation here occurred between the HAIRMAN and Mr. Ashmen upon points of order. especting the action of the committee, upon the several amendments proposed Mr. VENABLE next addressed the commit-

tee, advocating a reduction of postage. Mr. V poke so rapidly, after turning himself to address members at his right and left, that but little of his peech was heard by the reporter. He was in favor of free postage to country papers. The ope of the republic was in the rural population. They ought not to depend for newspapers upon cities, those ulcers upon the body politic. Mr. Venable argued from the practical operation of e present tariff, in favor of reduced rates of pos-He spoke with great severity of the character of many city publications, and passed a high eulogium upon the people of the country. He dwelt at considerable length and with much eloquence upon the manifold advantages of mail facilities, in uniting the people in bonds of brothpeople in every part of the country were equally taxed for the support of the syste a.

Mr. SACKETT proposed an amendment makounce, when postage is paid where such letter is ing newspaper postage one cent on those published out of the State, one half cent on those published ounce, or fraction of half an ounce, when so pre- out of the county where delivered, and two mills Mr. SACKETT addressed the committee.

country papers, would increase the revenue with out burthening the great mails. nuch data in support of his position. Mr. BROWN, of Indiana, proposed an amend-

not exceeding in weight half an ounce, and five um of one cent; and for any such new spaper de- additional for every additional half ounce or frac-Mr. BROWN advocated a gradual reduction postage. His experience was that the Po-

Each Postmaster General endea But the present scheme for taxing the Treasury originates with mercantile classes in the which it is, or may be lawful to transmit through great cities. He described their method of ope-the mails of the United States, shall be chargeable rating in the country, to get petitions for cheap rating in the country, to get petitions for cheap with postage at the rate of two cents for each postage. They did not tell the people that the reasury might be taxed to supply deficiencies. and one cent in addition for each additional ounce, Mr. Brown explained, at length, the history of postal reform in England, the character of the British system, and its practical operation. He was hostile to the high rates proposed for mail The opp-Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, The directors based upon false views. He cited several great of the mints in the United States are authorized mail routes where the towns intervening between their support. Mr. BROWN farther addressed the due to the Government of the United States, and gret that we have not room for even a farther ab-

At its close, the committee rose, and the Chairduty of the Postmaster General to provide and man announced that no conclusion had been had